

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (currently amended) : An optical transmission apparatus, comprising:

having a plurality of ports for transmitting and/or receiving one or more signals substantially as defined at IEEE 1394;

at least one of the ports being for transmitting and/or receiving one or more optical signals; and

one or more protocol conversion means for carrying out signal transmission protocol conversion being carried out at the a physical-layer level on at least one of the optical signals transmitted and/or received by said at least one of the ports;

wherein ~~the optical transmission apparatus comprises~~ one or more bus management means ~~for co-managing co-manages~~ one or more signal buses which are respectively connected externally to at least a portion of the plurality of ports.

2. (currently amended) : An The optical transmission apparatus according to claim 1, ~~further comprising wherein~~ said one or more ~~application level~~ protocol conversion means ~~for carrying carries~~ out signal transmission protocol conversion at ~~the an~~ application level.

3. (currently amended) : An The optical transmission apparatus according to claim 2 wherein
at least one of the application-level protocol conversion means carries out conversion between or among one or

more DV-format signal transmission protocols and one or more MPEG-2TS-format signal transmission protocols.

4. (currently amended) : An The optical transmission apparatus according to claim 2 wherein
 - at least one of the application-level protocol conversion means carries out conversion between or among one or more 1-bit audio signal transmission protocols and one or more multi-bit audio signal transmission protocols.
5. (currently amended) : An The optical transmission apparatus according to claim 4 wherein
 - at least one of the multi-bit audio signal transmission protocol or protocols is substantially as defined at IEC 60958.
6. (currently amended) : An The optical transmission apparatus according to claim 4 wherein
 - at least one of the multi-bit audio signal transmission protocol or protocols is substantially as defined at MPEG Audio Layer-3.
7. (currently amended) : An The optical transmission apparatus according to claim 2 wherein
 - one or more of the application-level protocol conversion means take the form of one or more replaceable modules.

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8. (original): Electronic equipment comprising one or more optical transmission apparatuses according to any of claims 1 through 7.